

**Workers' Compensation Advisory Board
August 20, 2008 OPEN Meeting Minutes
Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission, Springfield
9:00 a.m.**

Those present at the meeting were:

Dennis R. Ruth, Chairman of the Commission
Michael Carrigan, Illinois AFL-CIO
Dave Menchetti, Cullen, Haskins, Nicholson, & Menchetti

Members Attending Via Conference Call

David Buckman, CORE Construction Group
Frank Cavarretta, United Steel Workers
Mark Flannery, Caterpillar, Inc.
Phil Gruber, International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, AFL-CIO
Kim Maisch, National Federation of Independent Business
Kim Presbrey, Presbrey & Associates
Jerry Roper, Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce
David Vite, Illinois Retail Merchants Assoc.

Also Present

Amy Masters, Secretary of the Commission

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Chairman Ruth called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the minutes of the meeting held on June 17, 2008, were approved.

Chairman Ruth distributed a copy of the Division of Insurance Fraud Unit Annual Report to board members for review. Mr. Roper suggested posting a link on the IWCC web site to the annual report.

Chairman Ruth reported that in Fiscal Year 2008, the Insurance Compliance Division collected over \$1.8 million in fines from 69 uninsured employers, bringing 909 employees under workers' compensation coverage. Additionally, interviews for Insurance Compliance investigator positions have been completed, and 3 candidates were submitted for hiring approval. Chairman Ruth expected the investigators to be hired within the next month.

Chairman Ruth also added he anticipated the IWCC annual report to be completed within the next month.

Upon motion, the board went into closed meeting at 9:10 a.m.

The board returned to open meeting at 9:20 a.m.

Mr. Vite noted Chairman Ruth has been extremely open and professional while serving as Chairman, and he hopes his replacement will have the same balance.

Mr. Carrigan added Chairman Ruth has worked very hard and accomplished a great many goals, and noted his replacement will have large shoes to fill.

Chairman noted that the recommended candidates will continue to move the Commission forward. He also added it is important for business and labor to ensure workers' compensation continues to be a priority for this state.

After he submits the candidate names to the Governor, Chairman Ruth anticipates the Governor's office will act the first week of September to allow the arbitrator to complete arbitration decisions, and have time to learn about administration issues before Chairman Ruth leaves.

The board agreed to set the next meeting for Tuesday, October 14, at 1:30 p.m. in the Chicago Commission office.

Upon motion, the Advisory Board meeting was adjourned at 9:27 a.m.